In addition, in-vitro testing of lines for salt tolerance have indicated that a few callus masses could withstand higher concentration (1-1.5 per cent) of salt. Further studies are in progress.

(c) No separate data for production of basmati rice is available. Figures for basmati rice exported during the last two years are given below:—

Year	Quantity exported (in 000 tonnes)
1986-87	237
1987-88	366

Requirement of edible oil

2667. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of edible oil required in the country per annum for consumption:

(b) the total quantity improted every year to meet the demand;

(c) what are the channels of distribution and whether States get the quota on population basis; and

(d) whether Government have any proposal to meet the short-fall of edible oil in the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) The total requirement of edible oils in the country during the oil year 1988-89 is estimated to be about 58.18 lakh MTs.

(b) The quantum of edible oils to be imported is decided by the Government from time to time, keeping in view the gap between demand and supply of indigenous edible oils, availability of foreign exchange, prices of indigenous edible oils in the open market and other related factors. The total quantity of edible oils imported during the oil year 1987-88 was about 18.19 lakh MTs.

(c) Imported edible oils are allocated to the States/UTs for distribution under the Public Distribution System through the State Trading Corporation of India Ltd. Population is not the only basis of determining the quota of edible oil allocation to a particular State. The allocation also depends upon the demand, availability of indigenous oils in the State, pace of lifting, management of edible oils allocated earlier etc.

(d) The Government imports edible oils every year to bridge the gap between demand and supply.

Sugar Mills in the country

2668. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of sugar mills in private and cooperative sectors existing in the country;

(b) how many sugar mills have been set up during the Seventh Five Year Plan and proposed to be set up during last two years of the Plan;

(c) whether Government of Orissa has given any proposal to set up any new sugar mill in that State;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(e) the total amount earmarked for establishment of Sugar factory during the Seventh Five Year Plan and amount released so far?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) There are 211 sugar mills in Cooperative Sector and 119 mills in Private Sector installed in the country as on 15-11-1988.

(b) 28 new sugar mills have been set up during the first three years of the 7th Five Year Plan against the letters of intent|licences issued prior to 7th Plan. 7